

Residents battle rain for schools fundraiser

BY LAURA OLENIACZ
STAFF WRITER

Mother Nature did not stop the parade of children, parents and teachers marching down the streets Saturday to raise money for Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools.

The torrential downpour that started at the beginning of the walk created puddles and rivulets that diminished the fundraiser's turnout but created excellent conditions for splashing the afternoon away at the carnival at Lincoln Center that followed the walk.

Kim Hoke, vice president of the Public School Foundation, which sponsored the event, said the fundraising totals were down from last year's \$10,000 intake.

Hoke estimated that 2,500 people attended compared to last year's attendance of 3,000.

"We still got a little wet but we still escaped Mother Nature," said Rob Dallara, an eighth grader at Phillips Middle School who came to the event with his family.

Along with an abundance of cookies, cupcakes, barbecue and snow cones that entertained the

taste buds of carnival attendees, the event featured a climbing wall, a dance stage, a moon bounce and an array of games and art stands.

The carnival's distractions were set up by school organizations, and proceeds will go directly back to the programs.

For the fifth year in a row, the world language department of Culbreth Middle School held the bake sale that serves as a major fundraiser, said Culbreth Spanish teacher Lori Bruhns.

"Any cultural things we do we fund (ourselves)," Bruhns said.

"It's unfortunate it's raining because we make a good two or three hundred dollars," she added.

Frank Porter Graham Elementary School student Marika O'Hara helped carry the school's sign in the parade.

"My hands are all pink from the sign. It just sort of got wet and got on our hands. I got some on my nose," she said.

Walkers were asked to collect donations so that their school could receive 85 percent of the pledged amount. The other 15 percent will

go to overhead costs.

The Chapel Hill-Carrboro Public School Foundation, a non-profit organization that funds student scholarships for technical schools, renews certifications and teacher awards, sponsored the walk.

The annual walk is the group's fundraiser directly for the school programs. The foundation also did a 5K run Saturday morning that pulled in 131 participants.

"It's a great way to be involved in the community," said Taylor Williams, student body treasurer at Chapel Hill High.

Bruhns was also enthused about the event's positive publicity.

"The kids see us out of the classroom, the parents see us out of the classroom," she said.

Orange County Schools will host its first Walk for Education at 10 a.m. on Nov. 5 at the county courthouse. The county schools will receive 50 percent of the walk profits.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

A gathering by the creekside

'Friends' hold second festival

BY JESSICA SCHONBERG
STAFF WRITER

The pleasant smell of empanadas filled the air as the music of a local band dimly played in the background and children playfully waded around in the nearby creek.

The Bolin Creek area came to life to celebrate a local environmental cornerstone Sunday during the second annual Bolin Creek Festival at Umstead Park.

The festival was hosted by the Friends of Bolin Creek, a non-profit organization that aims to preserve the Bolin Creek corridor and to establish a park to preserve its watershed by cooperating with the University and area municipalities.

The organization currently is working with the University on plans to preserve the area of Bolin Creek that runs along the Carrboro side of the planned Carolina North campus.

"Bolin Creek is a natural treasure," said Dave Otto, who serves as chairman of the organization.

"The festival is both to celebrate the creek and to raise awareness that this marvelous place is here," he said.

The festival included a trash sweep on Umstead Road, live music, fresh food and activities for kids.

It also included a silent auction of goods and services donated by local merchants. All profits from the auction are being donated to the governor's N.C. Helping Neighbors Fund — 100 percent of which goes to assist hurricane victims.

Various other groups with environmental interests set up



Cynthia Crossen (left) of the Haw River Assembly shows a snail from Bolin Creek to Jay Jay Hladik at Umstead Park on Sunday afternoon.

information booths at the event. The Orange Water and Sewer Authority brought a poster covered with water conservation tips.

The event was attended by both young and old members of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro community.

For Jessica Robertson, who moved to the area from Gainesville, Fla., three months ago, the festival provided an opportunity to get to know her new community.

She said she heard about the festival on the news and thought it would be a good chance to get her 18-month-old daughter Lillian out of the house.

Leon Snape brought his dog with him to the festival.

"I think it's just a fine thing to protect this resource," he said of the protection efforts.

Entertainment for children came in the form of specially scheduled activities and enter-

tainment in a crafts corner at the festival.

Different local musical groups played each hour from noon until 6 p.m., giving attendees a taste of several musical flavors.

The music was a bonus for some who already were planning to attend the event.

"Nathan really enjoys the music," said Robin Hathorn about her young son. "He keeps pestering the musicians about what their instruments do."

Despite having to reschedule the event from Saturday to Sunday because of rain, organizers said the festival ended up a success.

Looking into the creek where some children, wearing Friends of Bolin Creek T-shirts hanging down to their ankles, dragged fishing nets through the shallow water, Otto said, "This is what it's all about."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Dirty South moves to Carrboro

Comedy troupe opens new venue

BY TANNER SLAYDEN
ASSISTANT ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

It makes sense that funny things should come in unique packages.

Take Dirty South Improv's new venue — located behind Elmo's Diner in the Carr Mill Mall — for example. The club has a back-alley facade, but the inside resembles The Comedy Store's world-renowned decor.

The group's members took the stage for the first time Friday night and showed that comedians make the venue, not vice-versa.

"It is so unreal that we finally have a permanent space," said Zach Ward, owner and executive director of DSI. "We are finally ready to do shows tonight."

The ribbon-cutting ceremony kicked off DSI's opening night and couldn't have been more fitting.

The glittered, silver ribbon was cut with a small Swiss Army knife — a symbol for their large comedic vision that just happens to be stored in a small place.

"This is a huge thing for the community," said Rene Duquesnoy, the ribbon-cutter and DSI performer. "This gives a home for many people who are looking to perform."

This also marked the first-ever performance of ComedySportz — improvisational comedy played as a sport.

After the opening ceremony, the packed house was treated to a mock competition between the Carr Mill Mall Rats and Philadelphia. Ward was the referee for the "sports event," which kept to its theme with uniforms, scoreboards and the let's-get-ready-to-rumble soundtrack.

The game works much like "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" with some variations, and is judged using an "applaud-o-meter."

"The only time I have watched improv comedy has been on my

television, and this looks so professional," said audience member Margaret Scarborough during the show's halftime. "It's so obvious that everyone has been working so hard to get these shows started."

The game relies a lot on audience participation, and spectators give all the ideas for games and can be pulled up at anytime.

Mike Kiehart, who took the almost 17-foot stage in one of the games, said he was excited to see ComedySportz at the Carrboro venue.

"The show has some awesome improv," Kiehart said. "The place isn't big or extravagant, but it feels like a comedy club."

Ward said he hopes the venue will continue to see big crowds.

"Word-of-mouth is the best advertising," he said. "Tell a friend, family member or zombie."

"We have no problem performing for the undead."

Contact the A&E Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

THE Daily Crossword

By Barry Silk

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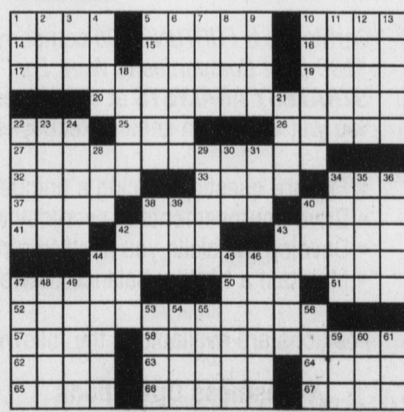
- ACROSS**
- 1 Apple cofounder
 - 5 Some restaurant owners
 - 10 Seven-year phenomenon
 - 14 Military subdivision
 - 15 Londoner's piece of candy
 - 16 Screenwriter Ephron
 - 17 Ability to move from place to place
 - 19 Ado
 - 20 Possible collector's item
 - 22 One-time connection
 - 25 Can. province
 - 26 Kennel sounds
 - 27 High-tech sleepaway
 - 32 Provide gear
 - 33 Sharer's word
 - 34 High-velocity fluid stream
 - 37 Deceptive plan
 - 38 Blue shade
 - 40 Lose color
 - 41 Busy insect
 - 42 Flutter about
 - 43 Marvelous
 - 44 Author's bane
 - 47 Ike's mate
 - 50 Airport abbr.
 - 51 Certain mil. base
 - 52 Genie's home
 - 57 Make reference to
 - 58 Center of interest
 - 62 Genesis fatality

- 63 Ram's charges
 - 64 Small group
 - 65 Lean and muscular
 - 66 "Bullitt" director Peter
 - 67 Alluring
- DOWN**
- 1 Ind. Day mo.
 - 2 Artist Yoko
 - 3 Lighter maker
 - 4 Halt
 - 5 Storage room
 - 6 Dish of today?
 - 7 Director Kazan
 - 8 Lash
 - 9 "Auld Lang ___"
 - 10 Marching together
 - 11 Add up
 - 12 Tight perm
 - 13 Pluckable instruments
 - 18 Tidy any loose ends
 - 21 English actress Sylvia
 - 22 Sour, formerly
 - 23 Plumed cap

- 24 Entertain
- 28 Kind of chart
- 29 Course taken
- 30 Mongrel dog
- 31 Is plural?
- 34 Glossy lacquer
- 35 Abnormal fluid build-up
- 36 Maryland team, casually
- 38 The Greatest
- 39 Pimple
- 40 Chinchilla coat
- 42 Bedrock guy
- 43 Little rascal

- 44 In every quarter
- 45 Do up a sneaker again
- 46 Stems
- 47 Tropical parrot
- 48 Excuse
- 49 Alma
- 53 Inconclusive
- 54 Vincent Lopez theme
- 55 Glaswegian
- 56 Plant holders
- 59 Anger
- 60 Veto
- 61 Small breed

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